

# Jeffersonian Republican.

THE WHOLE ART OF GOVERNMENT CONSISTS IN THE ART OF BEING HONEST.—Jefferson.

VOL. 10.

STROUDSBURG, MONROE COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1849.

No. 18.

Published by Theodore Schoch.

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From the Tribune.

## The Setting and the Rising Sun.

Thou art to me, thou glorious setting sun  
A mournful image of the golden age;  
For thou a downward course dost swiftly run  
And leave the dreary earth a darkened page.  
And as the hills along the shadowy West  
Awhile are glided in thy lingering ray,  
So did the loving ages of the best  
Tinge earth with brightness as they passed away.  
And then arose awhile the silvery moon,  
To cheer the heart and light the steps of men;  
But even simple Faith expired too soon,  
And left the sinking world in gloom again.  
Then clouds and darkness spread themselves o'er  
And ever grew the universal gloom,  
Till Man seemed covered with a frightful pall,  
And verging fast to an eternal tomb.  
But as the darkest hour precedes the dawn,  
So with the moral darkness of our race,  
That fallen man might hail a brighter morn,  
The Sun of Heaven awhile had hid his face.  
Now, who shall tell the brightness and the length  
Of the glad day that now is gently breaking?  
Oh, who shall tell the glory and the strength  
To which the human mind at last is waking!  
November 17. B. G. S.

## An Aerial Bridge.

The New Orleans Courier of the 12th ult., is responsible for the following description of a bridge in that city.—Mr. Remington's aerial bridge, if all the Courier states to be true, is just the thing to span the East River and connect New York and Brooklyn.

It may be remembered that about six months since, Mr. Remington and his self-supporting bridge were the subjects of extended and commendatory notice in the English papers, extracts from which were published about that time in the United States. This gentleman has recently arrived in this city, and has erected in the bar room of Bank Arcade, for public inspection, a model of this wonderful bridge. It is undoubtedly an extraordinary result of mechanical genius. The first impression on seeing it is, that it is constructed on principles hitherto unknown to the student of natural philosophy. It certainly appears to set the laws of gravitation at defiance. It extends across the bar-room, a space of ninety-six feet, and is elevated some ten feet from the floor. Its appearance is so fragile, that few men, judging from this alone, would willingly trust themselves upon it. Yet while there yesterday afternoon, among a number of spectators, we saw ten gentlemen all together on the centre of this bridge. It will be noticed that it has no support from the ground.—Its resistance as well to gravitation as to the pressure of so many persons, being secured by the principles on which it is constructed. Yet notwithstanding this great weight, its deflexure was very considerable.

From a memorandum handed us by Remington, it appears that the bridge has a span of 90 feet. This space is crossed by four longitudinal supports, each less than one inch square at the centre, but increasing gradually in size, until at the ends or points of fastening, they are 2 1/2 inches square. The bridge has one atenary and two parabolic curves, by which strength and beauty are both secured. The flooring is attached diagonally, and is made to sustain a portion of the strain. The deflexion of the supports is 22 1/2 inches. It is capable of bearing the pressure of 7 tons; while each of the supports, occupying their place in the bridge, will sustain a weight greater than the absolute strength of the timber and the direct cohesion of its fibres.

Mr. Remington states, that if one of his bridges were cut through transversely at the centre, the parts severed would neither sink nor separate so much as to render it impassable.—He informs us, besides, that a bridge on this principle could be made to span a space of a mile and a half.—N. Y. Sun.

Borrowing.—"Mother sent me over to see if you could lend her a little injun," said a little girl down South, in the Racksack region, to an old lady over on "Big Eagle," in Old Kentucky, who was considerably bothered by these neighborly calls.

"No my dater," said the old lady, raising her spectacles, and pretending not to know that corn meal was the thing asked for. "I should like to oblige your mother, but we have no little injun. Tell her, however, she can have our nigger boy any time she wants to borrow him."

The trading on "borrowed capital" was broken after this.

## SINGULAR REVELATIONS. Communications with Spirits in Western New-York.

For some time the Rochester and other papers in western N. Y. have made occasional references to mysterious noises, that were producing considerable excitement in that quarter: and the following grave history of the affair was published in the Tribune of the 1st instant, by which it would appear that intelligent and prominent citizens have thought it worthy of serious attention. The case furnishes another illustration of the effect of mystery on the human mind, on which account alone we copy it.

From The New-York Tribune.

Knowing that the public mind, in various locations in Western New-York, has been somewhat agitated on account of certain sounds, called by some "mysterious," we shall offer no apology for making the following plain statement of facts in regard to our knowledge of the matter.

The sounds were first heard about two years since, and have not yet ceased, but seem to be spreading from one place to another and gradually claiming the attention of the public mind. When first heard, they were manifested by a simple hollow-sounding rap upon the floor of a house. This rapping was continued every night, for a long time and finally commenced in the day-time. It was at first entirely unintelligible to the inhabitants of the house.

At length a little girl said "Now do as I do," and snapped her finger three times. She was answered by three raps. On repeating it she found that it invariably repeated the number she made herself. Another person said, "Now count ten," and it was done. "Now count the age of"—(one of the children.) It was done correctly.—Another was tried with like success. As it began to display signs of intelligence the family became alarmed and the females all left the house at night. The neighbors were called in but there was no cessation of the sounds. The excitement became intense, and at one time, it is said, nearly or quite 300 persons assembled to discover from whence the sounds proceeded. The house was thoroughly examined from garret to cellar, but while the sounds continued, no one ever discovered the operator. At length it was discovered that every time a question was put that required an affirmative, a rap was heard—for a negative—no sound.

The question was put, "Are you a spirit?" The answer was by rapping—three raps. By this means they found that it purported to be the spirit of a man. Many expedients were resorted to by which to find out the name of the man whose spirit was making these manifestations. At length a stranger asked "If I will call the Alphabet, beginning with A, will you rap when I come to the first letter of his name?" The answer was affirmative. He then commenced "A, B, C," when he came to C, there was a rap. Again he went on, and it rapped at H, and in that way he spelled out the name of Charles Rasmie. As before stated, these sounds have, from that time been heard in various families in that place and the cities of Auburn and Rochester and various places in the country. Although confined to this rapping sound, the mode of communication has gradually improved so that many very curious and astonishing sentences have been spelled by the use of the Alphabet. It no longer purports to be the spirit of one man or person, but when an individual makes the inquiry "who is it that wishes to communicate with me," they will generally get the name of some friend or relative—a Mother, Father, Sister or Brother who has passed from visible existence.—Many persons have made the trial and have had names spelled out to them of their friends, unknown to any person present. Strangers have tried the experiment and had their names spelled out before any person present knew it or where they came from.

In each family where the sounds appear, there seems to be some one or two, whose presence is necessary to insure communications freely. Generally we find that these persons are susceptible to magnetic influences and Clairvoyant, although we have heard it where there were none that had ever been magnetized or were known to be Clairvoyant. In the family of Mr. Granger of Rochester—a citizen well known there—the communications could be had with any two of the family previous to any of them being placed under the magnetic influence, but after a daughter was magnetized and became Clairvoyant, no communication could be had without her presence. No person had ever been magnetized in the family where it first appeared.

We first became acquainted with these manifestations about one year since, and we have taken every opportunity to discover, if possible what it is. We have become convinced that these facts there is no disputing, viz: The sounds,—the intelligence and the absence of any collusion or deception in the matter.

Some two weeks since, we were in company with some persons who were getting communications from this invisible communicator when a message was spelled out to us to the import that the matter should be made more public—that the time had arrived for the people to investigate the whole affair—that it was a thing which will ultimately become known to all men, and that we should immediately take measures to have it investigated. The directions were then minutely given by these spirits, as they purport to be, and which we are willing to believe, are until we have as much proof to the contrary as it required to bring us to this conclusion. These directions will appear in the following history, as they were fully and strictly followed. The great object was to start investigation and clear those who had been hearing it for the last two years from the imputation of fraud and deception.

Accordingly on the evening of November 14, a lecture was delivered in Corinthian Hall in the City of Rochester, and a full history of the rise and progress of these strange manifestations given. During the relation of these facts the sounds were distinctly heard by the persons in the hall.

After the lecture, a Committee was chosen by the audience, composed of the following persons:—A. J. Combs, Daniel Marsh, Nathaniel Clark, Esq., A. Judson and Edwin Jones.

On the following evening the Committee reported in substance, as follows: That without the knowledge of the persons in whose presence the manifestations are made, the Committee selected the Hall of the Sons of Temperance for the investigation—that the sound on the floor near where the two ladies stood was heard as distinctly as at other places, and that part of the Committee heard the rapping on the wall behind them—that a num-

ber of questions were asked which were answered not altogether right nor altogether wrong—that in the afternoon they went to the house of a private citizen, and while there the sounds were heard on the outside (apparently) of the front door, after they had entered and on the door of a closet. By placing the hand upon the door, there was a sensible jar felt when the rapping was heard. One of the Committee placed one of his hands upon the feet of the ladies and the other on the floor, and though the feet were not moved, there was a distinct jar on the floor. On the pavement and on the ground the same sound was heard;—a kind of double rap as if a stroke and a rebound were distinguishable. When the ladies were separated at a distance no sound was heard; but when a third person was interposed between them the sounds were heard. The ladies seemed ready to give every opportunity to the Committee to investigate the cause fully, and would submit to a thorough investigation by a committee of ladies if desired. They all agreed that the sounds were heard, but they entirely failed to discover any means by which it could be done.

After this report and some discussion on the subject, the audience selected another Committee composed of the following persons—Doctor H. H. Langworthy, Hon. Frederick Whittlesey, D. C. McCallum, William Fisher, of Rochester, and Hon. A. P. Hascall, of Leroy. At the next lecture this Committee reported that they went into the investigation at the office of Chancellor Whittlesey, and they heard the sound on the floor, on the wall and door,—that the ladies were placed in different positions and, like the other Committee, they were wholly unable to tell from what the sounds proceeded or how it was made,—that Dr. Langworthy made observations with a stethoscope to ascertain whether there was any movement of the lungs, and found not the least difference when the sounds were made; and that there was no kind of probability or possibility of their being made by ventriloquism as some had supposed,—and they could not have been made by machinery.

Again, after this report, another Committee was formed, from persons who had opposed in the meeting all pretensions to there being anything but a trick.

This Committee was composed of Dr. E. P. Langworthy, Dr. J. Gales, Wm. Fitzhugh, Esq., W. L. Burris and L. Kenyon. This Committee met at the rooms of Dr. Gates at the Rochester House, and appointed a Committee of Ladies who took the young women into a room, disrobed them and examined their persons and clothing to be sure that there was no fixtures about them that could produce the sounds. When satisfied on this point the Committee of Ladies tried some other experiments, and gave the young ladies the following certificate:

"When they were standing on pillows with a handkerchief tied around the bottom of their dress, tight to the ankles we all heard the rapping on the wall and floor distinctly." (Signed.)

MRS. STONE, MRS. J. GATES, MISS M. P. LAWRENCE

In the evening the Committee, through their Chairman, Dr. Langworthy, made a very full report of their examination during the day. They reported that they had excluded all friends of the two ladies from the Committee room and had the examination only in presence of the Committee of gentlemen, and ladies chosen by them. Notwithstanding all this precaution, these sounds were heard when the ladies stood on large feather pillows, without shoes, and in various other positions, both on the floor and on the wall,—that a number of questions were asked which, when answered, were generally correct. Each member of the Committee reported separately agreeing with and corroborating the first statements.

Thus, by three days of the strictest scrutiny by means of intelligence, candor and science, were the persons in whose presence these sounds are heard, acquitted of all fraud.

On Friday evening, after the lecture, three of the Committee, viz: Hon. A. P. Hascall, D. C. McCallum and William Fisher, repaired to the house of a citizen and pursued their investigations still farther. There were nearly a score of persons present. The members of the committee wrote many questions on paper, which no person present knew the purport of, and they were answered correctly. At times they would ask mentally and would receive the answers with equal correctness and they were fully satisfied that there was something present manifesting an intelligence beyond the persons visible.

One of the committee tried the experiment of standing the ladies on glass and failed to get any sounds; but the same was subsequently tried in presence of a large number of persons, and the sounds were as loud and distinct as before, on the floor as usual.

Such are the facts so far as the public proceedings are concerned, (which is but a small part of these strange occurrences) with the Committee's reports greatly condensed.

Thus the matter stands at present, and whether it is only a remarkable phenomena which will pass away with the present generation, or with the persons who seem now to be the medium of this extraordinary communication; or whether it be the commencement of a new era of spiritual influx into the world: it is certainly something worthy the attention of men of candor and philosophy.

E. W. CAPRON, Auburn.

GEORGE WILLETS, Rochester.

Rochester, Nov. 22, 1849.

## Something New.

A number of capitalists in New York city are buying a large tract of land fifteen miles from N. York, near the Hudson river railroad, where they intend to erect a new city, for the laboring classes. Two millions of dollars to be the capital. The company are to build 5,000 brick houses at \$500 each, including the lot of 50 by 200 feet. The houses are to be let at \$52 each to mechanics, or \$1 a week which will pay 10 per cent, on the capital. All the houses to be uniform. Each occupant to have the right to purchase his house by paying \$2 a week, and keeping up the interest of 7 per cent. In this way he gets a title to his homestead in about six years.

A negotiation is going on with the Hudson river railroad, that the occupants of these houses shall have the privilege to commute with the railroad company for their passage to New York and back again, at a price not to exceed six cents a day for going and coming; the distance each way will not be far from fifteen miles, at three cents a head. In this way they can reach the city in half an hour. If 10,000 laborers reside there, it would give the company \$600 a day or \$187,000 a year.

## WINTER EVENINGS. Good Advice to Young Men.

We cut the following article from the Philadelphia Ledger. It renews many useful hints in relation to the disposition of time during the evenings of the winter which is approaching, that may be adopted with good results.

How to pass the long winter evenings with pleasure, profit and instruction, is a question that has excited the attention of some of the newspapers, who take an interest in the welfare of our youthful mechanics and operatives. How to pass them with pleasure, in the common acceptance of that dubious word, is universally known to call for elucidation; but how to unite profit and instruction with recreation, so as to extract from the consciousness of wasted time the sting of regret, is not so generally appreciated or considered. Literary associations, debating clubs, reading rooms, and other intellectual recreations, naturally suggest themselves as means of passing the time without corrupting morals. The vast advantage of knowledge and the high position always commanded by intellectual power, are too self-evident for an argument in favor of selecting this mode of passing the long winter evenings. "Aye! but then," cries a buoyant spirit, "this is study—this is labor—and we want recreation, pleasure and amusement—we want to relax after the toils of the day." True! and pray is there any incompatibility between literary occupations and recreation? What pleasures are more intense and permanent than those of the mind? Where can you find the same variety as in books? "From grave to gay—from lively to severe!" Besides the pleasure there is profit. The pride of superior knowledge, the consciousness of intellectual power, the ambition of fame, are they not the highest pleasures of which the mind is susceptible? Reading aloud is itself a noble occupation, full of amusement. So is debate, so is recitation. Intellectual recreation is also susceptible of every variety of modification; and there is no kind of knowledge that is not useful, the certainty of profit is always insured. When the mind is engaged, time makes its most rapid flight. Now, any number of young men may form any sort of association they please, to read, to converse and recite, and they cannot fail to be pleased.—The habit of reading soon augments its pleasure. The same number of people, associated together for intellectual and literary recreations, will enjoy a hundred-fold the pleasure of those who meet for mere sensual gratification. Besides, to vary the amusement, music and song can be occasionally introduced to divert the more volatile members. Music is so closely connected with poetry, that it becomes a natural adjunct to literary advertisement. The elevating and wholesome influence of such winter evening occupations would soon be felt and a general emulation would be kindled to excel in mental acquisitions; while the happy effect produced by them on character, temper and deportment, would tend to place the mechanic in the social position which naturally belongs to him as a rational and useful being.

## Psychological Fact.

Raspail, the French socialist, has pointed out, the Medical Journal says, one of the powers of camphor, which, in a psychological point of view, is most important—that of putting a stop to that fearful insomniac which accompanies the incubation and early development of insanity; when opium, hyoscyamus, conium, stramonium, and "all the drowsy syrups of the East," fail to produce any effect, a grain of camphor, formed into a pill, and followed by a draught of an ounce and a half of the infusion of hops, mixed with five drops of sulphuric ether, is his usual remedy for procuring sleep.

## Sensible.

Several marriage notices lately sent for publication, were accompanied by requests to enter the bridegrooms' names upon our list of subscribers. This we call decidedly sensible. Indeed, we have often thought ladies would do well to refuse the offer of any man who is not, and does not intend to become, a regular paying subscriber to some good newspaper. If we were a young lady, we should not like to run the risk of marrying such a man. There is certainly a defect in his character, which should alarm all damsels in search of good husbands. Of course it is not to be expected that every young man shall take a paper while living in his father's house; but when he is about to forsake it and "cleave unto his wife," if he can content himself without a paper in his house, we repeat our warning to all the dear ladies, to be cautious how they give their hearts to such a man.

The above is copied from the Bucks County Intelligencer, a paper which we always open with pleasure. The conduct of the "bridegrooms" alluded to, as well as the remarks thereupon by the editor, are both "decidedly sensible," in our estimation; and worthy of being followed by all persons contemplating matrimony. Every man who commences house-keeping, should have a good wife and a good newspaper of his own—he cannot dispense with either, unless at serious detriment to his domestic happiness.—Reading Gazette.

## WAR.

Mrs. LYDIA JANE PIERSON, of the Lancaster Literary Gazette, and Mrs. SWISSELM of the Painsburg Visitor, are about engaging in a desperate conflict in regard to "the rights of Women." The sword has been drawn, the scabbard has been thrown away; and words are destined to flow as thick as April showers.—Ladies, forbear! for "when Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war." To think that the gentle and mild poetess should challenge the impulsive Mrs. SWISSELM, who (it is whispered,) can leap a five rail fence, is certainly horrible. We hope the friends of the parties will intercede, and stop the difficulty.

## Del. & Hud. Canal Company.

During the past season this Company has forwarded from this point 454,404 tons of coal. The amount forwarded last year was 437,500 tons. Increase this year 16,904 tons.

The enlargement of the canal will be completed during the coming winter, and next season the business will be transacted with new boats of the capacity of 130 tons, drawn by two horses each. The present boats carry 50 tons and are drawn by one horse each.

The Pennsylvania Railroad will be finished and put in operation early next season. It extends from Hawley which place is situated on the canal ten miles below this borough, to Pittston, on the Susquehanna river, a distance of from sixty to seventy miles. Gravity, and stationary engines will be used on this road, the same as on the road from this place to Carbondale. The transportation of coal is the principal object for which the road is being constructed.

Next year it is intended to increase considerably the amount of coal delivered at this borough, so that the total will not fall short of 500,000 tons. Perhaps half that amount, say 250,000 tons, will be delivered at Hawley by the Pennsylvania railroad. This will swell the amount delivered at Rondout, on the Hudson river, to 750,000 tons. The year following the amount delivered at Hawley will fully equal the amount delivered here.

How a market, at remunerating prices, can be found for the additional amount of coal which is proposed to forward next year and the year following, it is not easy to perceive. There seems to be very little prospect of an increased market commensurate to the increased supply. One thing, however, is certain, and that is, that the managers of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, and of the Pennsylvania Canal Company, and the agents of those Companies, here and at Carbondale and at other points, are thoroughly skilled in the business they have to conduct, and can secure a market where less competent superintendents would fail. Especially to the principal agents of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company at this place and Carbondale, too much praise cannot be awarded, for it is in no small degree owing to their talents, energy and tact that the company with which they are connected owes the pre eminent success it enjoys, and by which it is enabled to go on increasing its business, while other companies are forced to contract their operations.—Honesdale Democrat.

## Pawtuxet Bank of R. I.

It was reported a couple of weeks since, and the statement was generally circulated, that the Pawtuxet Bank, at Providence, R. I., had failed. Since, it has been ascertained that the report was unfounded, and the Cashier, Mr. T. R. Greene, has addressed the following note to Mr. M. T. Miller, editor of Bicknell's Reporter, which we publish as an act of justice to the institution:

PAWTUXET BANK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.  
November 24th, 1849.

Mr. Matthew T. Miller—Dear Sir: I observe in the columns of your paper, the notice of a rumor that the Pawtuxet Bank, Providence, R. I., is reported to have stopped payment. I would be very much obliged to you if you will give information in the Reporter, that the bills of said bank are as current as those of any other bank in the city of Providence, and there never has been a refusal to pay specie for any bills that ever have been presented to the bank, and all demands have been met promptly. Our notes are received on deposit at the Suffolk Bank, Boston. Respectfully yours,  
T. R. GREENE, Cashier.

The Reporter says in reference to the bank, that "his notes are taken on deposit by all the New England Banks, and we are assured that it enjoys a credit equal to that of any other bank in Rhode Island."

## A Curiosity.

There is a colored man belonging to this county, now trading, we believe, on board of a shallop between this city and Philadelphia, who is in color both white and black. He is covered with white spots (as white as the fairest white man) from the size of a dollar to several inches, and even feet, in length and breadth. There is a white ring round each of his eyes, and also white round his mouth, one half of one of his arms is white. His predominant color is black, only about a third being white. His mother is named Stewart, and lives a few miles from this city. We have never heard this singular phenomenon accounted for. Where's Barnum?—Wilmington Chick-en.

## Negro Eloquence.

A Boston Dandy black stepped into a provision store in that city, to buy some potatoes; before purchasing, he gave the following eloquent description of their nature:

"Do tatar is inevitably bad, or invariably good. Dare is no madiocritiy in de combination ob de tatar. De exterior may indeed appear remarkably exemplary and businesslike while de interior is totally negative; but, sir, if you wends de articles pon your own recommendations, knowing you to be a man of probability in all your translations, why, sir, without further circumlocution, I take a bushel."

## Female Barbers.

From an official document recently published by the Prussian Government it incidentally appears that women act as barbers in many parts of Prussia.

## Quick Telegraphing.

A despatch was received in New Orleans on the 19th ult., in one hour and four minutes from Baltimore.